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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/752,648	12/29/2000	Gregory Cummings	42390P9329	1497

7590

06/28/2004

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EXAMINER

BRANCOLINI, JOHN R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2153

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2004

6

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

CR

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/752,648

Applicant(s)

CUMMINGS ET AL.

Examiner

John R Brancolini

Art Unit

2153

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 April 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-20 and 24-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-20, 24-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 December 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This action in response to amendment filed April 12, 2004.

Claims 5, 21-23 cancelled. Claims 1-4, 6-20, 24-29 are still pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-2, 4, 6-12, 14-18, 20, 24, 26-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kenner et al. (US Patent 6269394), hereinafter referred to as Kenner.

In regards to claim 1, Kenner discloses a method, comprising:

- Receiving a request for data from a requesting system, the request having an address (the PIM, or primary index manager, receives a request from a user workstation which has an associated network address, this network address being attached to the request in the form of a network ID, which allows the PIM to determine where in the system the requesting computer is located, col 8 lines 58-

66, col 14 lines 16-29 deals with the regional ID, which is used as an address for matching servers to geographic areas that the requester is in).

- Receiving an identifier corresponding to the address from an edge server of a plurality of edge servers, the edge server having the requested data (the PIM interrogates the database of content servers, the requester then receiving an identifier corresponding to the nearest server, col 12 line 57 – col 13 line 8).
- Selecting the edge server to provide the requested data to the requesting system (after receiving the request, the PIM selects a server that contains the requested data based on the requesting systems address, col 11 lines 34-46).
- Directing the requesting system to the edge server to receive the requested data (the data is sent from the remote storage unit to the requesting unit which subsequently receives the information, col 11 lines 41-46).

In regards to claim 2, Kenner discloses the selecting of the edge server further comprises forwarding the address to a database having a predetermined list of addresses corresponding to the plurality of edge servers, and looking up the address corresponding to the edge server in the database, wherein the edge server is the nearest streaming server to the requesting system (the PIM maintains a database containing the addresses of the edge servers as well as a listing of the servers contents, to which the address is forwarded to allow the PIM to find the nearest server to stream the data to the requesting unit, col 4 line 55 – col 5 line 16, col 10 lines 55-65).

In regards to claim 4, Kenner discloses the address comprises an IP (Internet Protocol) address (Col 22 lines 20-68, the top table indicates that a User ID is stored which is used to identify a user, also the lower table indicates that listing of all IP addresses are stored).

In regards to claim 6, Kenner discloses the request comprises a request for media data (the invention is directed towards video clip storage and retrieval, col 7 lines 12-15).

In regards to claim 7, Kenner discloses the request for media data comprises a request for live media data (the search and retrieval unit, or SRU, can stream video in real time allowing for live media data, col 10 lines 9-18).

In regards to claim 8, Kenner discloses the causing the directing of the requesting system to the edge server comprises:

- Connecting the edge server to an origin server receiving the live media data (the PIM connects a storing server to the origin server to obtain a copy of the data, col 16 lines 45-51).
- Sending the live media data from the origin server to the edge server (a new clip is stored by the server of origin of the media data, sends the clip to the PIM which sends the clip to a storing server, col 16 lines 45-51).

In regards to claim 9, Kenner discloses a method, comprising:

- Receiving a request for data from a requesting system, the request having an address (the PIM, or primary index manager, receives a request from a user workstation which has an associated network address, this network address being attached to the request in the form of a network ID, which allows the PIM to determine where in the system the requesting computer is located, col 8 lines 58-66, col 14 lines 16-29 deals with the regional ID, which is used as an address for matching servers to geographic areas that the requester is in).
- Looking up the address using a database, the database having predetermined addresses corresponding to a plurality of edge servers (after receiving the request, the PIM selects a server that contains the requested data based on the requesting systems address, col 11 lines 34-46).
- If the address exists on the database, receiving an identifier corresponding to the address from an edge server having the requested data and is a nearest streaming server to the requesting system (the PIM interrogates the database of content servers, the requester then receiving an identifier corresponding to the nearest server, col 12 line 57 – col 13 line 8), and causing the requested data to be sent from the edge server to the requesting system (the data is sent from the remote storage unit to the requesting unit which subsequently receives the information, col 11 lines 41-46).

In regards to claim 10, Kenner discloses if the address does not exist on the database, causing the requested data to be sent from a deployment server to the requesting system, the deployment server being selected based on a non-address based protocol (if an unknown user with a non-existent address requests data, a local retrieval unit is created that finds and downloads the data and then transfers the data to the user based on a non-address based protocol, but rather on geographic locality, col 9 lines 29-42).

In regards to claim 11, Kenner discloses the causing of the requested data to be sent from the selected edge server comprises redirecting the requesting system to the selected edge server (a routing message is created by the index manager, and this is forwarded to the user allowing the requesting system access to the remote server, col 11 lines 34-40).

In regards to claim 12, Kenner discloses the redirecting the requesting system to the selected edge server comprises sending location information to the requesting system, the location information comprising the address of the selected edge server and the location of the requested data on the selected edge server (the PIM maintains a database containing the addresses of the edge servers as well as a listing of the servers contents, to which the address is forwarded to allow the PIM to find the nearest server to stream the data to the requesting unit, col 4 line 55 – col 5 line16, col 10 lines 55-65).

In regards to claim 14, Kenner discloses a machine-readable medium having stored thereon data representing sets of instructions, which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to:

- Receive a request for data from a requesting system, the request having an address (the PIM, or primary index manager, receives a request from a user workstation which has an associated network address, this network address being attached to the request in the form of a network ID, which allows the PIM to determine where in the system the requesting computer is located, col 8 lines 58-66, col 14 lines 16-29 deals with the regional ID, which is used as an address for matching servers to geographic areas that the requester is in).
- Receive an identifier corresponding to the address from an edge server of a plurality of edge servers, the edge server having the requested data (the PIM interrogates the database of content servers, the requester then receiving an identifier corresponding to the nearest server, col 12 line 57 – col 13 line 8).
- Select the edge server to provide the requested data to the requesting system (after receiving the request, the PIM selects a server that contains the requested data based on the requesting systems address, col 11 lines 34-46).
- Redirecting the requesting system to edge server to receive the requested data (the data is sent from the remote storage unit to the requesting unit which subsequently receives the information, col 11 lines 41-46).

In regards to claim 15, Kenner discloses the sets of instructions which, when executed by the machine, further cause the machine to forward the address to a database having a predetermined list of addresses corresponding to the plurality of edge servers, and to look up the address corresponding to the edge server in the database, wherein the edge server is the nearest streaming server to the requesting system (the PIM maintains a database containing the addresses of the edge servers as well as a listing of the servers contents, to which the address is forwarded to allow the PIM to find the nearest server to stream the data to the requesting unit, col 4 line 55 – col 5 line 16, col 10 lines 55-65).

In regards to claim 16, Kenner discloses the address comprises an IP (Internet Protocol) address (Col 22 lines 20-68, the top table indicates that a User ID is stored which is used to identify a user, also the lower table indicates that listing of all IP addresses are stored).

In regards to claim 17, Kenner discloses an apparatus comprising:

- A storage medium (the SRU is a storage unit, col 9 lines 29-31).
- A processor coupled with the storage medium, the processor to:
 - Receive a request for data from a requesting system, the request having an address (the PIM, or primary index manager, receives a request from a user workstation which has an associated network address, this network address being attached to the request in the form of a network ID, which

allows the PIM to determine where in the system the requesting computer is located, col 8 lines 58-66, col 14 lines 16-29 deals with the regional ID, which is used as an address for matching servers to geographic areas that the requester is in).

- Receive an identifier corresponding to the address from an edge server of a plurality of edge servers, the edge server having the requested data (the PIM interrogates the database of content servers, the requester then receiving an identifier corresponding to the nearest server, col 12 line 57 – col 13 line 8).
- Select the edge server to provide the requested data to the requesting system (after receiving the request, the PIM selects a server that contains the requested data based on the requesting systems address, col 11 lines 34-46).
- Directing the requesting system to the edge server to receive the requested data (the data is sent from the remote storage unit to the requesting unit which subsequently receives the information, col 11 lines 41-46).

In regards to claim 18, Kenner discloses the processor is further to forward the address to a database having a predetermined list of addresses corresponding to the plurality of edge servers, and to look up the address corresponding to the edge server in the database, wherein the edge server is a nearest streaming server to the requesting

system (the PIM maintains a database containing the addresses of the edge servers as well as a listing of the servers contents to allow the nearest server to stream the data to the requesting unit, col 4 line 55 – col 5 line16, col 10 lines 55-65).

In regards to claim 20, Kenner discloses the address comprises an IP (Internet Protocol) address (Col 22 lines 20-68, the top table indicates that a User ID is stored which is used to identify a user, also the lower table indicates that listing of all IP addresses are stored).

In regards to claim 24, Kenner discloses an apparatus, comprising:

- A database having predetermined addresses corresponding to a plurality of edge servers (the PIM maintains a database containing the addresses of the edge servers as well as a listing of the servers contents to allow the nearest server to stream the data to the requesting unit, col 4 line 55 – col 5 line16, col 10 lines 55-65).
- A redirection server coupled to a database, the redirection server to:
 - Receive a request for data from a requesting system, the request having an address (the PIM, or primary index manager, receives a request from a user workstation which has an associated network address, this network address being attached to the request in the form of a network ID, which allows the PIM to determine where in the system the requesting computer is located, col 8 lines 58-66, col 14 lines 16-29 deals with the regional ID,

which is used as an address for matching servers to geographic areas that the requester is in).

- Lookup the address on the database (after receiving the request, the PIM selects a server that contains the requested data based on the requesting systems address, col 11 lines 34-46).
- If the address exists on the database, receive an identifier corresponding to the address from an edge server having the requested data and is nearest streaming server to the requesting system (the PIM interrogates the database of content servers, the requester then receiving an identifier corresponding to the nearest server, col 12 line 57 – col 13 line 8), and cause the requested data to be sent from the edge server to the requesting system (the data is sent from the remote storage unit to the requesting unit which subsequently receives the information, col 11 lines 41-46).

In regards to claim 26, Kenner discloses the address comprises an IP (Internet Protocol) address (Col 22 lines 20-68, the top table indicates that a User ID is stored which is used to identify a user, also the lower table indicates that listing of all IP addresses are stored).

In regards to claim 27, Kenner discloses a system, comprising:

- A requesting system to request data, the request having an address (the PIM, or primary index manager, receives a request from a user workstation which has an associated network address, this network address being attached to the request in the form of a network ID, which allows the PIM to determine where in the system the requesting computer is located, col 8 lines 58-66, col 14 lines 16-29 deals with the regional ID, which is used as an address for matching servers to geographic areas that the requester is in).
- An operations center coupled to the requesting system, the operations center to handle requests from the requesting system, the operations center having:
 - A site database having a predetermined a list of addresses corresponding to a plurality of edge servers (the PIM maintains a database containing the addresses of the edge servers as well as a listing of the servers contents to allow the nearest server to stream the data to the requesting unit, col 4 line 55 – col 5 line16, col 10 lines 55-65).
 - A redirection module to receive an identifier corresponding to the address from an edge server having the requested data and is a nearest streaming server to the requesting system, and to cause the requested data to be sent from the edge server to the requesting system (a routing message is created by the index manager, and this is forwarded to the user allowing the requesting system access to the remote server, col 11 lines 34-40).
 - The edge server of the plurality of edge servers to send data to the requesting system (the data is sent from the remote storage unit to the

requesting unit which subsequently receives the information, col 11 lines 41-46).

In regards to claim 28, Kenner discloses the requesting system comprises a viewer, and the redirection module causing the requested data to be sent from the edge server to the requesting system comprises initiating a dialog session between the viewer and the edge server (in one embodiment, Kenner shows the invention being used to watch videos for a real estate company where the user has a viewer installed in a browser, and a dialog session is also utilized to allow the user to access text data that corresponds to the video, col 18 line 64 – col 19 line 43).

In regards to claim 29, Kenner discloses the address comprises an IP (Internet Protocol) address (Col 22 lines 20-68, the top table indicates that a User ID is stored which is used to identify a user, also the lower table indicates that listing of all IP addresses are stored).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 13, 19, 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kenner in view of Alkhatib (US Patent Number 6119171).

In regards to claims 3, 13, 19, and 25, Kenner fails to disclose the feature of using a predetermined list of CIDR (Classless Inter-Domain Routing) blocks corresponding to the address of an edge server.

Alkhatib discloses a system of domain name routing where the feature of utilizing CIDR blocks is discussed. Alkhatib teaches using CIDR blocks as a solution to the depleting IP address problem currently facing networks. Utilizing CIDR blocks allocates a series of Class C network addresses in the place of a Class B network to slow the consumption of Class B network addresses (col 2 lines 1-12).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Kenner to include utilizing CIDR blocks as taught by Alkhatib as a solution to the depleting IP address problem currently facing networks.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed April 12, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant submits:

1. "Kenner does not teach or reasonably suggest receiving a request...having an address". (Page 10 of response)

2. "Kenner does not teach or reasonably suggest receiving an identifier corresponding to the address from an edge server...having the requested data". (Page 10 of response)

In regards to argument 1, the examiner respectfully disagrees with applicant. As stated in independent claims 1, 9, 14, 17, 24 and 27, the address is not defined as being anything other than a part of the request. Due to this, the examiner has interpreted the address to be the address of the requesting system. This feature then, is not novel over the art of record. Kenner (as was addressed in the first action), has a requesting system which specifies an address, the address being a network identifier used by the PIM to located a server that is close to the requesting system for delivery of the requested content. A regional ID is attached to requests which provided the PIM a geographical point to base content delivery on. Beyond this, the actual IP address of the user is stored by the PIM which indicates that the address is provided at one point during the request. Without providing an address with the request, the PIM would have no reference of where to forward the results of the search. See claim 1 and its dependent claims for detailed passages from Kenner supporting this argument.

In regards to argument 2, the examiner respectfully disagrees with applicant. Kenner discloses the PIM responds to the request by sending a completed search query as a DSI Video Download list (Kenner col 13 lines 2-8) to a DSI, or Data Sequencing Interface. The DSI then uses this list to direct the storage unit to connect with the appropriate servers having the requesting data.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John R Brancolini whose telephone number is (703) 305-7107. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 7am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess can be reached on (703) 305-4792. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JB

JRB



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